



September 21, 2005

FDIC San Francisco Regional Office  
Director John F. Carter  
25 Jessie Street Ecker Square, Suite 2300  
San Francisco, CA 94105

Dear Director Carter,

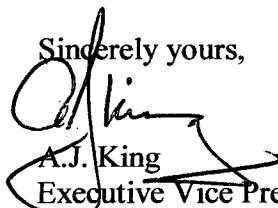
Please stop the Wal-Mart application for FDIC insurance in Utah to charter an Industrial Loan Company. As a 20-year banker involved in two independently owned community banks in Northwest Montana I have concerns.

Since Wal-Mart was established in our community, a family owned retail store of 35 years went broke. As a result, our bank charged off \$120,000.00 and the SBA wrote off \$360,000. We also have a nursery in trouble, which is directly affected by Wal-Mart, as Wal-Mart is located a quarter mile from our customer. Wal-Mart has the buying power to give customers discounts on products and these same products are being sold in locally owned stores. Local stores do not have the advantage of low overhead and the buying power. Over time the local stores are out of business. Because of Wal-Mart, other businesses are struggling, which impacts our community banks.

Now the latest is to have Goliath (Wal-Mart) and their greedy fortune 500 owners applying to have banking powers. Wal-Mart is already destabilizing communities like ours across America. Wal-Mart bank branches would drive more nails in the coffin hurting community banks and small businesses. Do you think Wal-Mart will lend to small businesses they compete with? And what an advantage, Wal-Mart already has the infrastructure and customer base to be the fastest growing bank in America.

Community Banks are a solid industry in America. We make positive impacts in communities and we are good at what we do. Why give banking powers to the greedy Wal-Mart family at the expense of small business and community banks? Please stop Wal-Mart's drive to get into banking once and for all.

Sincerely yours,

  
A.J. King  
Executive Vice President

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MEMBER F.D.I.C.

Website: [www.threeriversbankmontana.com](http://www.threeriversbankmontana.com)



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*Mission Statement:*

Three Rivers Bank of Montana is a place where you can still know your banker, get personalized attention and quick answers because we're independently owned and locally operated.

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Dorrie  
(D. F. Zeman)

cc: Camden R. Fine, President and CEO, Independent Community Bankers of America  
cc: Keith L. Colbo, Executive Director, Montana Independent Bankers  
cc: Honorable Max Baucus, Montana U.S. Senator  
cc: Honorable Conrad Burns, Montana U.S. Senator  
cc: Honorable Dennis R. Rehberg, Montana House of Representatives